



AirNow International

AirNow-International (AirNow-I) is a stand-alone, international version of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's real-time air quality data management and display system. AirNow-I includes a suite of software for data processing, quality control methods, system monitoring, and graphical output.

AirNow-I:

- Helps decision makers communicate the connection between air pollution, health, and sustainability goals, and to involve the public in efforts to improve air quality.
- Promotes sustainable development by facilitating air quality management programs.
- Supports better public health and environment around the world through air quality data sharing and scientist to scientist knowledge exchange and cooperation.
- Meets World Health Organization goals to raise public awareness, warn of pollution episodes, and advise sensitive populations.

The new **AirNow-I Community** is creating a network of AirNow partners around the world to expand the resources, expertise and tools for air quality information and forecasting. The AirNow-I Community provides technical support to international entities that adopt the AirNow-I system and enables effective collaboration among community.

How can my country or organization benefit from using the AirNow-I system?

- Protect public health with air quality alerts when air pollution is high
- AirNow-I can help determine the best air quality control measures for your region.
These could include:
 - No-drive days and other traffic controls;
 - Pedestrian friendly zones;
 - Stationary source controls; and
 - Fuel changes and clean energy
- Link mega-event (e.g., Olympics) real-time air quality data collected through the AirNow-I system with past trends to assess the effectiveness of control programs.
- Post real-time traffic information and AirNow-I data to show links between traffic activity and air quality
- Create community carbon footprint indicators by linking real-time CO₂ data and traffic activity
- Demonstrate the co-benefits of air quality and climate change strategies by displaying fuel consumption, traffic activity, and real-time air quality information from AIRNow-I to relate greenhouse gases and air quality
- Educate the public about air quality improvements over time from environmental initiatives by comparing real-time air quality data to past trends and health standards
- Distribute data feeds and products to decision-makers and the public

How can I become an AirNow-I partner?

Participation options:

1. Operating Partner – participates in operating AirNow-I
 - a. Member of AirNow-I workgroup – decide on system improvements and changes
 - b. Member of AirNow-I steering committee – decide direction of community, system changes, establish strategic vision, etc.
2. Data Sharing Partner – interested in providing or receiving data from an AirNow-I system
3. Observers- organizations invited to share technical expertise

Process for joining:

1. Operating Partner
 - a. Scoping Trip
 - b. CRADA, Memorandum of Understanding
2. Data Sharing Partner
 - a. Data use agreement
3. Observer
 - a. Provide contact information

What are potential funding mechanisms for AirNow-I?

US EPA is exploring “Cooperative Research and Development Agreements” or CRADAs. In the United States, CRADAs are formal research and development agreements of specified duration and scope between a government agency and colleagues from industry, academia, other governments, or non-profit institutions.

US EPA funds the operation of the US AirNow system and its upgrades. The purpose of a CRADA is to make available US Government facilities, intellectual property, and expertise for collaborative interactions that lead to products that benefit public health. Under a CRADA, the AirNow-I partner can receive a variety of benefits in addition to technical collaboration. A CRADA provides international entities access to EPA materials, equipment, personnel and contractor assistance.

What is the process of joining and participating in AirNow-I?

1. Establish contacts with EPA and AirNow-I team.
2. Jointly develop a plan of action for participation in the AirNow-I community and possible implementation of the AirNow-I suite of software programs to meet specific needs.
3. Formalize collaboration by establishing a CRADA or other funding mechanism.
4. Begin to participate in the AirNow-I community.